

ABSTRACT

One of the techniques used to achieve coherence in writing is adding transitional markers. This research focuses on the use of transitional markers as one of the skills the students need in composing a better writing. The research is set to find out whether the third semester English Department students at Bina Nusantara University use the transitional markers correctly in their paragraphs or essays. The writer uses two kinds of data in conducting the research, i.e. thirty students' essays in final term test of Writing III as the primary data, and the judgement of four qualified writing lecturers at Bina Nusantara University on three representative essays and the questionnaire attached as the secondary data. From the data analysis, the writer finds that even though twenty nine out of thirty essays or 96.67% of the students are aware of using the transitional markers between the sentences, they still make mistakes in the use of the markers. In addition, there are 50% of the students who do not use transitions between their paragraphs.

Key words: discourse, coherence in writing, transitional markers